

Application No. 10/035,963
Amendment filed January 21, 2004
Reply to Office Action dated October 22, 2003

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a patient suffering from severe glaucoma, exhibiting optical nerve head damage and visual field defects, comprising simultaneously administering a combination of IOP reducing agents to the patient's eye, wherein at least one IOP reducing agent comprises a prostaglandin or a prostaglandin derivative and at least one IOP reducing agent comprises a beta-adrenergic antagonist or carbonic anhydrase inhibitor.
2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said combination is administered to the surface of the eye.
3. (Original) A method according to claim 2, wherein said combination is a topical ophthalmic composition comprising a mixture of IOP-reducing agents.
4. (Cancelled).
5. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein improved efficacy in IOP reduction is obtained in the patient when compared to patients suffering from an elevated IOP, but being free from abnormalities in the optical nerve head and visual field loss.

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6. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said combination comprises an effective amount of an IOP-reducing agent capable of increasing the uveoscleral outflow of aqueous humor.
7. (Cancelled).
8. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 7 1, wherein said ~~combination~~ prostaglandin comprises an IOP reducing amount of a prostaglandin F_{2α} derivative.
9. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 8, wherein said prostaglandin F_{2α} derivative has an omega chain carrying a ring substituent in a terminal position, selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted phenyl, cycloalkyl and aromatic heterocyclic groups.
10. (Original) A method according to claim 9, wherein said prostaglandin F_{2α} is latanoprost or travaprost.
11. (Original) A method according to claim 8, wherein said prostaglandin F_{2α} derivative is isopropyl unoprostone.
12. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said combination comprises an effective amount of an IOP-reducing agent capable of reducing the formation of aqueous humor.

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13. (Original) A method according to claim 12, wherein said combination further comprises an effective amount of an IOP-reducing agent capable of increasing the uveoscleral outflow of aqueous humor.

14. (Cancelled).

15. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim ~~1~~ 14, wherein said combination comprises a prostaglandin F_{2α} derivative and a beta-adrenergic antagonist ~~agonist~~.

16. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 15, wherein said combination comprises a prostaglandin F_{2α} derivative having an omega chain carrying a ring substituent in a terminal position, selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted phenyl, cycloalkyl ~~or~~ and aromatic heterocyclic groups.

17. (Original) A method according to claim 16, wherein said combination comprises latanoprost and timolol.

18. (Original) A method according to claim 17, wherein said combination is a mixture of latanoprost and timolol in a topical ophthalmic composition.

19. (Currently Amended) A method of treating an individual in need of a high IOP-reduction comprising simultaneously administering a combination of IOP reducing

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agents to the eye, wherein at least one IOP reducing agent comprises a prostaglandin or a prostaglandin derivative and at least one IOP reducing agent comprises a beta-adrenergic antagonist or carbonic anhydrase inhibitor.

20. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 19, wherein said individual has a hereditary disposition for glaucoma.

21. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 19, wherein said individual suffers from complications which may trigger ischemic conditions in the region of the optical nerve head.

22. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 19, wherein said individual suffers ocular hypertension without detected damages of the optical nerve head or a loss of the visual field.

23. (Original) A method according to claim 19, wherein said combination is administered to the surface of the eye.

24. (Original) A method according to claim 21, wherein said combination is a topical ophthalmic composition comprising a mixture of IOP-reducing agents.

25. (Original) A method according to claim 19, wherein said combination comprises an effective amount of an IOP-reducing agent capable of increasing the uveoscleral outflow of aqueous humor.

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26. (Cancelled).

27. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim ~~19~~ 26, wherein said prostaglandin combination comprises an IOP reducing amount of a prostaglandin F_{2α} derivative.

28. (Previously Amended) A method according to claim 27, wherein said prostaglandin F_{2α} derivative has an omega chain carrying a ring substituent in a terminal position, selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted phenyl, cycloalkyl and aromatic heterocyclic groups.

29. (Original) A method according to claim 28, wherein said prostaglandin F_{2α} is latanoprost or travaprost.

30. (Original) A method according to claim 29, wherein said prostaglandin F_{2α} derivative is isopropyl unoprostone.

31. (Original) A method according to claim 19, wherein said combination comprises an effective amount of an IOP-reducing agent capable of reducing the formation of aqueous humor.

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32. (Original) A method according to claim 31, wherein said combination further comprises an effective amount of an IOP-reducing agent capable of increasing the uveoscleral outflow of aqueous humor.

33. (Cancelled).

34. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 19 ~~33~~, wherein said combination comprises a prostaglandin $F_{2\alpha}$ derivative and a beta-adrenergic antagonist agonist.

35. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 34, wherein said combination comprises a prostaglandin $F_{2\alpha}$ derivative having an omega chain carrying a ring substituent in a terminal position, selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted phenyl, cycloalkyl and aromatic heterocyclic groups.

36. (Original) A method according to claim 35, wherein said combination comprises latanoprost and timolol.

37. (Original) A method according to claim 36, wherein said combination is a mixture of latanoprost and timolol in a topical ophthalmic composition.

38.-75. (Canceled).

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76. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 19, wherein the individual exhibits optical nerve head damage and visual field defects.

77. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein said combination comprises a prostaglandin $F_{2\alpha}$ derivative and a carbonic anhydrase inhibitor.

78. (New) A method according to claim 19, wherein said combination comprises a prostaglandin $F_{2\alpha}$ derivative and a carbonic anhydrase inhibitor.

79. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein the beta-adrenergic antagonist comprises acebutolol, alprenolol, atenolol, betaxolol, bisoprolol, carteolol, celiprolol, esmolol, labetalol, lefebunolol, metipranolol, metaprolol, nadolol, oxprenolol, penbutolol, pindolol, propanolol, sotalol or timolol.

80. (New) A method according to claim 19, wherein the beta-adrenergic antagonist comprises acebutolol, alprenolol, atenolol, betaxolol, bisoprolol, carteolol, celiprolol, esmolol, labetalol, lefebunolol, metipranolol, metaprolol, nadolol, oxprenolol, penbutolol, pindolol, propanolol, sotalol or timolol.

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